



Innovative  
Technology  
& Outreach

# Environmental Technology Partnerships

U.S. Environmental  
Protection Agency

Office of Research and Development  
Washington, DC 20460

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September 1994

*Item 431-J-15*

## Cooperative Research and Development Agreement With Chemical Specialties Manufacturers Association, Inc.

### *Study of Fiber Release During Routine Maintenance of Asbestos Containing Floor Tile*

#### Participants

This Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) brings together the Chemical Specialties Manufacturers Association, Inc. (CSMA), which is incorporated in the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Risk Reduction Engineering Laboratory (RREL) in the Office of Environmental Engineering and Technology Demonstration, Office of Research and Development.

#### Purpose

This CRADA will evaluate technology for routine maintenance of asbestos-containing floors and assess the release of asbestos fibers from these maintenance activities.

#### Background

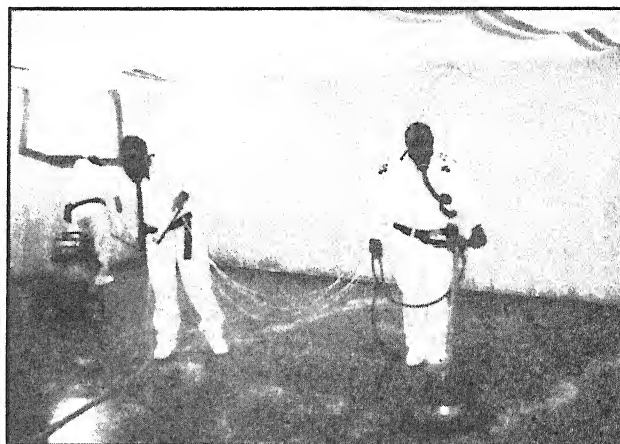
The RREL has special expertise in field assessment of fiber release during operations and maintenance procedures and in laboratory analysis of asbestos. The CSMA has special knowledge of the chemical systems and routine floor maintenance procedures.

A collaborative effort will produce engineering assessments necessary to improve guidance to the users of floor care technology.

#### Results

RREL has completed field activities evaluating Operations and Maintenance (O&M) procedures on Vinyl Asbestos Floor Tile. The project was conducted in a vacant building at the closed Chanute Air Force Base in Rantoul, IL. Completion of the report will conclude a research project that studied the effects of various floor coating procedures on asbestos emissions from low speed stripping procedures and low speed and ultra high speed buffing procedures. A final report will be written following completion of data analysis.

This is one of more than 50 cooperative research and development agreements EPA has with various U.S. businesses, academic institutions and state and local governments



Air sampling during floor stripping in containment

under the Federal Technology Transfer Act of 1986. These agreements serve as a mechanism for the federal government to work with private industry and others to develop new pollution prevention and control technologies and efficiently bring them into the marketplace.

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